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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes #20

December 4, 2013

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:00PM on December 4, 2013 in the Dorothy Vocino Conference Room in the URI Library, Chairperson Byrd presiding. Senators Cerbo, Davis, Nassersharif, and Rice were present. Senator Brady was absent.

2. Minutes of FSEC Meeting #14, Oct. 31, 2013 were approved as amended.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

a. Chairperson Byrd noted the cancellation of the December 3rd Honors Colloquium Program because the featured speaker, Providence Mayor Angel Tavares, had not returned from a trip out of state.

b. Professor Jacqueline Webb, Chair of the Council for Research, per her request, will be invited to the January 21, 2014 FSEC meeting. The FSEC will update her on the proposed University Manual change, from 2012-13, to revise the Council for Research chair selection process.

c. Clark Greene and other representatives from the Board of Education will hold a forum this evening (Dec. 4) at 5PM in the Alumni Center to present and solicit input on a draft plan for a proposed governance structure. Discussion followed under Ongoing Business.

4. ONGOING BUSINESS

a. Prompted by the forum to be hosted this evening (Dec. 4), the FSEC discussed their concerns relative to Board of Education governance of a range of higher education business. Concerns included: the structure of the new Board, the relationship of the college and university presidents to the new board, the number of members and composition of the new board, and dissemination of information prior to Board meetings. In addition, the FSEC would like to see the university allowed to engage in a personnel system other than the state civil service system. The current job classifications and hiring practices can hamper the work of the university. The FSEC also discussed the university's relationship to the legislature and hoped it would improve.

b. Senator Nassersharif, the Administrator Evaluation Coordinator for the Faculty Senate, provided an update on the administrator evaluation committee formation and the process, which is in the second year of a two-year pilot program. The evaluation committees for the six administrators are almost complete. The FSEC discussed the evaluation committees' prerogative to change the survey questions to better reflect the particular administrator's responsibilities. The committees will be urged to retain the categories of questions to allow some uniformity to the review process. It is also the committees' prerogative to analyze the data in the manner that they choose. The option of reporting data based on the college (or other sub category of constituency) was discussed. The individual committees may decide on this question. The FSEC believes that most faculty would not be in favor of this.

c. The FSEC discussed the ongoing plans for the forum on broader components of campus security (non-violent resolution, etc.) other than arming the campus police. Some of the potential participants were not able available in the first week of December. The committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of scheduling the event in January 2014. A tentative date of January 30 was proposed. The committee discussed the request to the President that he select

someone from emergency preparedness to complete the panel. Senator Davis will continue to follow up with the potential participants about their availability.

d. The FSEC discussed a response to the UCGE committee if it is unable to complete and submit a report on the revised general education program to the Senate by December 13th.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff